

CLAIMS:

1. A method of filtering a collection (COL) of samples (S_i), characterized in that the method comprises the steps of:

- distinguishing (DIS) between valid samples (S_{i+}) and non-valid samples (S_{i-}) on the basis of auxiliary data (AUX); and

5 - deriving (DER) filtered samples (S_o), which are associated with the valid samples (S_{i+}), exclusively on the basis of the valid samples (S_{i+}).

2. A method of filtering as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the method comprises the step of:

- deriving a filtered sample from a set of filter input values which is fixed in size; each filter input value being associated with a specific sample such that, if the sample is valid, the value of the sample is taken as the filter input value whereas, if the sample is not valid, a padding value is taken as the filter input value, the padding value being derived from at least one valid sample.

3. A method of filtering as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the method comprises the steps of:

- forming a cluster of samples;

- calculating a padding value on the basis of valid samples in the cluster;

20 - forming a set of filter values by taking, for each valid sample, the value of that sample and by taking the padding value for each non-valid sample;

- deriving a filtered sample from the cluster of filter input values.

4. A filter arrangement (FAR) for filtering a collection of samples (S_i), characterized in that the filter arrangement comprises:

25 - an input circuit for distinguishing between valid samples (S_{i+}) and non-valid samples (S_{i-}) on the basis of auxiliary data (AUX); and

- a filtering circuit for deriving filtered samples (S_o), which are associated with

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Int A ~~the valid samples (Si+), exclusively on the basis of the valid samples (Si+).~~

5. A computer program product for a filter arrangement, the computer program product being characterized in that it comprises a set of instructions which, when loaded into the filter arrangement, causes the filter arrangement to carry out the method as claimed in claim 1.

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